



the lumen being configured for introduction of surgical instruments therethrough; and organizer means at the proximal end of the cannula body for retaining a plurality of sutures extending through the lumen from the body cavity in spaced apart positions outside of the body cavity.

1 58. The cannula system of claim 57 wherein the cannula body is configured  
2 for positioning in an intercostal space in the patient's chest.

1 59. The cannula system of claim 57 wherein the organizer means comprises  
2 a first organizing ring having an interior passage and a plurality of suture retaining  
3 means circumferentially spaced about the interior passage.

1 60. The cannula system of claim 59 wherein the first organizing ring is fixed  
2 to the proximal end of the cannula body with the interior passage aligned with the  
3 lumen.

1 61. The cannula system of claim 59 wherein the suture retaining means  
2 comprise a plurality of slots in the first organizing ring circumferentially spaced about  
3 the interior passage.

1 62. The cannula system of claim 60 further comprising means at the  
2 proximal end of the cannula body for maintaining the sutures in tension.

1 63. The cannula system of claim 62 wherein the means for maintaining the  
2 sutures in tension comprises a second organizing ring spaced apart from the first  
3 organizing ring, the second organizing ring having an interior passage and a plurality of  
4 means circumferentially spaced about the interior passage for holding the sutures in  
5 tension.